



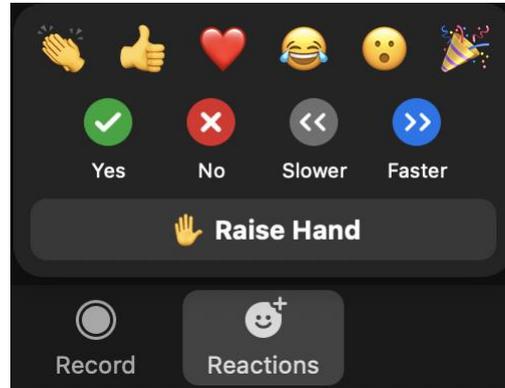
CONNECTICUT STATE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

***The Commissioners' Roundtable
for Family and Community
Engagement in Education***

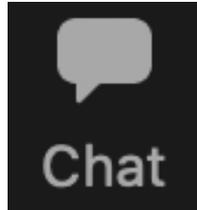
**May 26, 2021
1:00 to 2:30 p.m.**

Interacting with Our Zoom Meeting



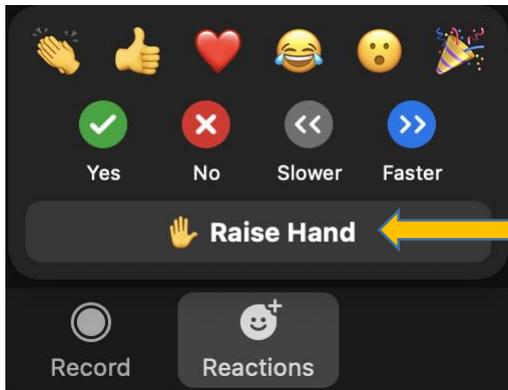
Use **reactions** to share your feelings with the speaker and other audience members.

Interacting with Our Zoom Meeting



To ask a question of our panelists:

Open the Chat panel and type in your question.



If you'd like a chance to unmute your microphone and ask a question:

1. Click the **Reactions** icon, and then
2. Click the **Raise Hand** button.

When you're called on by the facilitator, you'll be able to unmute your microphone. *If you're using Interpretation, please submit your questions using the Chat panel!*

Our Group Engagement Norms

As members of the Commissioners' Roundtable for Family and Community Engagement in Education, we have agreed to:

- Be willing to speak our truth (even the hard truth) while respectfully acknowledging and embracing other views
- W.A.I.T. (Why Am I Talking?)
- Be open to honest and real conversation that is fearless (“Say what you want, not what you think others want to hear”)
- Be active listeners
- Listen respectfully to understand others' opinions
- Ensure that all voices are valid and respected, making it critical that we hear from everyone in the room
- E.L.M.O (Enough Let's Move On)



Agenda

Welcome and Introductions

John Frassinelli, Division Director, School Health, Nutrition, Family Services & Adult Education

Ingrid Canady, Executive Director, SERC

Emergent Critical Issues in Education

Charlene Russell-Tucker, Acting Commissioner

Tanya Budler, Fellow

John Frassinelli, Division Director, School Health, Nutrition, Family Services & Adult Education

Desi Nesmith, Deputy Commissioner

Panel Discussion: Engaging stakeholders in Connecticut's American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds (ARP ESSER)

Listening to Roundtable Members: Observations and Recommendations during COVID-19

Discussion Wrap-up and Charge to the Roundtable from Acting Commissioner Russell-Tucker





CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Emergent Critical Issues in Education

Charlene Russell-Tucker, Acting Commissioner

Connecticut State Department of Education

May 26, 2021



Connecticut
State
Department
of Education



AccelerateCT Summer Program Expansion Grant Application

- ❖ **\$8.6 Million to Expand High-Quality Summer Enrichment Programs for more than 96,000 Connecticut Children**
 - ❖ Expansion Grants – up to \$25,000 to expand access to summer programming
 - ❖ Innovation Grants – up to \$250,000 to provide innovative summer programming
- ❖ **235 grantees were notified Tuesday, May 25**



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

GOVERNOR NED LAMONT

04/30/2021

Governor Lamont Proposes Program Allowing
Children to Access Connecticut Museums for Free
this Summer

- ❖ Utilizing state funding from the American Rescue Plan
- ❖ All Connecticut children 18 and under plus one accompanying adult can visit any of the state's participating attractions free of charge from July 1 to September 6
- ❖ State attractions such as: Mystic Aquarium, Mystic Seaport Museum, Beardsley Zoo, Connecticut Science Center, and the Maritime Aquarium
 - ❖ *Full list will be at [ctvisit.com](https://www.ctvisit.com) by July 1*



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
GOVERNOR NED LAMONT

05/04/2021

Governor Lamont Announces Connecticut Exceeds
Five Year Goal for Increasing the Diversity of the
Educator Workforce

- ❖ Goal was to increase the number of educators of color by 10% (about 1,000 positions)
- ❖ Over the last five years, CT school districts have hired more than 1,900 educators of color
- ❖ Continuing to employ strategies and develop new initiatives to diversify the educator workforce





**Connecticut's American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, 2021
Elementary and Secondary School
Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) Guidance:
Reimagining Schools to Transform Students' Lives**

- ❖ **Released ARP ESSER Guidance**
- ❖ **Held two public forums with SERC**
- ❖ **Solicited written input from stakeholders**
- ❖ **Currently working on CSDE state plan and supporting districts in their planning**





CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Commissioners' Roundtable for Family and Community Engagement

**American Rescue Plan Act, 2021
Elementary and Secondary School
Emergency Relief Fund
(ARP ESSER)**

May 26, 2021

ESSER I	\$111 million	Survive
ESSER II	\$492 million	Thrive
ARP ESSER	\$1.1 billion	Transform



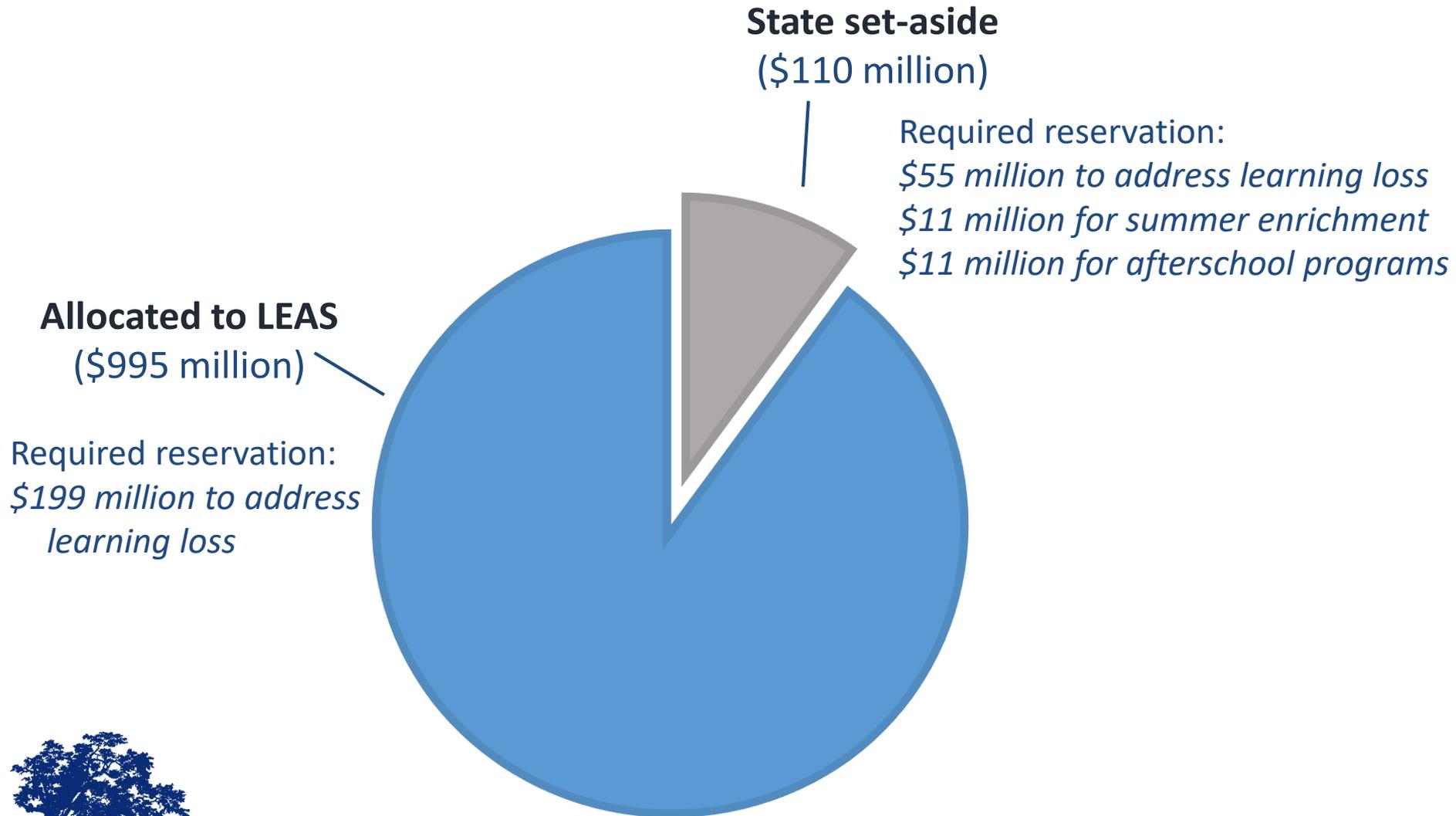
Commitment to Equity

It is our collective responsibility to fulfill the established priorities through an **equity-focused lens**.

Access must be focused on our preK-12 populations most disproportionately impacted by COVID-19.



Overview: ARP ESSER



State-Level Priorities Revisited:

*Reimagining schools to
transform students' lives*

Learning
Acceleration,
Academic Renewal,
and Student
Enrichment

Family and
Community
Connections

Social, Emotional,
and Mental Health
of the Students and
of the School Staff

Strategic Use of
Technology, Staff
Development, and
the Digital Divide

Building Safe and Healthy Schools





STATE OF CONNECTICUT
GOVERNOR NED LAMONT

04/12/2021

Governor Lamont Launches State Initiative To
Address Student Absenteeism and Disengagement
Resulting From the COVID-19 Pandemic

- ❖ **Learner Engagement and Attendance Program (LEAP)**
- ❖ **Office of the Governor, CSDE, and RESCs**
- ❖ **Targeting 15 high-need districts**
- ❖ **Three goals:**
 - ❖ **Bridge students back to school communities**
 - ❖ **Support student enrollment in summer programs**
 - ❖ **Facilitate a seamless transition back into school next year**



Apex Learning:

- ❖ Grades 6-12
- ❖ Supplemental resource to support:
 - ❖ Local credit recovery programs
 - ❖ Credit accumulation
 - ❖ Personalized learning
- ❖ Enrichment/Gifted and Talented

Defined Learning:

- ❖ Grades K-12
- ❖ Supplemental resource to local units of study as a culminating project
- ❖ Pre-unit to develop background knowledge for a unit of study sequence
- ❖ Enrichment

Panel Discussion

Engaging and Communicating with Stakeholders regarding ARP ESSER Opportunities

Panelists:

Milly Arciniegas, Executive Director, Hartford Parent Union

Andreas Lolis, Student, State Student Advisory Council on Education

Gwen Samuel, Founder and President, CT Parents Union

Mirellise Vazquez, Executive Director, Tauck Family Foundation

- *How can CSDE best communicate with families about ARP ESSER and other education-related initiatives and encourage their input/participation?*
- *What can CSDE communicate with districts as practical approaches to engage and communicate with families and communities about ARP ESSER planning and opportunities?*

